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Palestinian women break through police lines in Nablus yesterday while protesting against the Palestinian Authority. They demanded the release of relatives arrested during a raid on militants and tried to reach the building where PA President Yasser Arafat was to hold a council meeting. Two legislators met with them and promised to raise their grievances. (Reuter)

Peres said to favor national unity gov't

PRIME Minister Shimon Peres tends to favor the option of a national unity government, Channel 1 reported yesterday. According to the report, Peres told people close to him, "I am not a private person" and "Labor must be a partner to the political process," comments indicating his support for establishing a unity government. Peres was also quoted as saying, "Labor cannot enter a government in which the peace process is not ensured" and "I don't need mediators. I have direct contact [with prime minister-elect Benjamin Netanyahu] on every matter."

Senior Labor sources say Peres is willing to consider a serious offer to join a unity government if it comes from Netanyahu, but that at this point the chances are still greater for a Likud government. Political observers believe that even after a coalition is put together, it will not be the final word, for Netanyahu is then expected to make a national unity offer to Labor.

MICHAL YUDELMAN

Even if he only intends it as a courtesy, there are known to be a substantial number of Labor MKs who are eager to participate in a unity government. In that case, the thinking is that all of the Likud's partners will keep their portfolios, the number of ministers would be increased from the present 18, and the Likud and Labor would then have eight ministers each.

Sources close to Peres said this week that, in addition to Peres, ministers Ehud Barak, Yossi Beilin, Avraham Shohat, and Benjamin Ben-Eliezer favor joining the Likud in a unity government. Peres aides counseling him to make this move, if it presents itself, maintain that Labor's influence and power would always be greater as part of the government than in opposition.

Peres and Netanyahu have been maintaining frequent phone contact, and their two meetings were reported to be friendly, positive, and filled with cooperation and mutual respect.

Peres made it clear yesterday that he has no intention of retiring from political life or from Labor's leadership, and intends to devote himself to the party's rehabilitation. Peres also does not intend to advance elections for Labor's leadership, which must take place within 14 months after the elections, according to the party's constitution.

Peres stressed that he will not make any announcement concerning his future plans "until the next government is formed, which I hope will be next week. Then I will say what I have to say."

Peres reportedly took a grim view of Foreign Minister Ehud Barak's attempts to advance Labor's leadership showdown, and may now consider Barak his rival. Labor sources said Barak made a mistake when he started pushing himself as Peres's successor at this early stage.

The Channel 1 report suggested that if a unity government is ultimately formed, and Labor gets the Defense Ministry, it will be Peres who mans the post rather than Barak. In such a constellation, Barak might find himself facing a Peres-Haim Ramon front.

Peres made it clear yesterday that he has no intention of retiring, Sarah Honig contributed to this report.

'Eitan investigation won't hold up coalition'

SARAH HONIG and EVELYN GORDON

THE coalition-formation process will not be put on hold till the police investigation of Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan is completed, spokesmen for prime minister-elect Benjamin Netanyahu stressed yesterday. They expect the new government to be formed before the investigation is concluded and Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair decides whether to indict Eitan.

Meanwhile, Netanyahu intends to allocate portfolios as if there were no investigation and will hold in trust for Eitan the two portfolios reportedly earmarked for him - Internal Security and Agriculture.

Ben-Yair's office refused to comment on the affair yesterday, except to say that a decision on whether to indict Eitan would be made within a week. Eitan is suspected of obtaining confidential personal data from the IDF computer database and using it to pressure fellow Tsomet activists into leaving the party.

In particular, the attorney-general declined either to confirm or deny that he had ordered Eitan barred, not just from the Internal Security Ministry, but from any ministry with access to confidential databases. If such a directive was issued, however, an indictment will almost certainly follow. The only reasons for not filing an indictment are lack of evidence or lack of public interest - and if either of these elements were missing, there would also be no reason to bar Eitan from a ministry.

Eitan met with the attorney-general yesterday morning and afterwards announced that he had requested that Netanyahu hold off his appointment until the investigation is over. "I am not pressing and asking for anything whatsoever," Eitan stressed.

In both the Likud and Tsomet, the assumption is Eitan will eventually get the portfolios set aside for him, because all he could be convicted of would be a technical misdemeanor and not a crime involving moral turpitude. The 1992 High Court ruling which barred Aryeh Deri from being a minister explicitly stated that barring a person from a ministerial post would depend on the type of crime involved. The incident is being treated by those close to Netanyahu as less than a major obstacle on the road to coalition formation; at most as a minor pothole.

In both parties there was considerable anger at the attorney-general, who was accused of pursuing a political agenda with sudden hyperactivity, resurrecting eight-year-old accusations against Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert and Eitan's four-year-old case.

Tsomet's Nehama Ronen, one of Eitan's aides and an unsuccessful candidate for the Knesset, asked yesterday, "How is it that only a week before Rafal's ministerial appointment, someone suddenly chooses to remember this forgotten, very questionable case. The attorney-general's behavior is more than curious. The country's top legal experts all concurred in conversations with us that there is nothing which can prevent Rafal from holding any portfolio at all."

Eitan's right-hand man, Doroo Shmueli, who accompanied him yesterday to his meeting with the attorney-general, contended that at the meeting "things sounded quite different from how they do in the media. This is the first time the attorney-general met with Rafal, despite four years of inactivity."

"Ben-Yair told us that, as far as he can judge, Rafal is not barred from holding any portfolio whatsoever, including Defense. He explained that there is still one point in the case which is not clear to him. He did not elaborate or specify the point, but he wanted a week or two for the police to look into it and feels that it would be improper for Eitan to be in charge of the force while it investigates him."

According to Shmueli, Ben-Yair said that, "There is no question of moral turpitude here. He agreed when I said that not to allow Rafal to head any office with access to classified files would be like barring anyone from serving as transport minister if he ever got a traffic ticket."

Ben-Yair, right or wrong, Page 12

NRP in as coalition talks seesaw

SARAH HONIG

COALITION talks with the National Religious Party were back on track yesterday, but derailed with Yisrael Ba'aliya, which broke off talks claiming it is being discriminated against.

Likud insiders, however, maintained that prime minister-elect Benjamin Netanyahu remains intent on pressuring his government next week to the Knesset, which convenes on Monday.

His optimism was buoyed by a radical improvement in relations with the NRP, which was reportedly pleased with the new offer put to it yesterday for a hefty second portfolio.

A further breakthrough was reported over the nettlesome Religious Affairs portfolio. A rotation agreement has apparently been forged with hospitalized Shas leader Aryeh Deri.

Contacts with United Torah Judaism and The Third Way are also reported going well (story, Page 12).

The Third Way wants a firmer commitment on the Golan in the coalition guidelines, which is not seen as problematic.

But the guidelines on religious affairs have not been finalized, and difficulties could arise with Yisrael Ba'aliya, which does not want a more stringent religious status quo.

Yesterday's major development came in a meeting between Netanyahu and NRP leader Zevulun Hammer, when the NRP was offered a better second portfolio than Communications, which so insulted it a day earlier.

The two agreed to keep the new offer strictly under wraps, which prevented Hammer from divulging the information even to members of his party's new Knesset faction.

The upshot was a spate of speculation over which portfolio the NRP was offered in addition to Education. Among those named was Labor and Social Affairs (known to have previously been earmarked for Shas), or Industry and Trade (assumed to have been offered to Yisrael Ba'aliya), or Housing (already eagerly coveted by UTJ and YB and said to have been set aside for Ariel Sharon), or Transport (reportedly offered to Sharoo along with Housing).

Likud insiders do not rule out the possibility that Housing will go to UTJ and Transport to the NRP. They also say that, in the end, Sharon will be given Finance, but without the budget division, which is slated to be moved to the Prime Minister's Office.

Another set of rumors floated yesterday claims that control of the Broadcasting Authority will not be moved from Education for the time being, and will be another candy offered Hammer. The opposing rumor is that Netanyahu is intent on privatizing the IBA, which Hammer opposes, and so the deal with Hammer was that the IBA would go to the Prime Minister's Office.

Finally, if the Likud grapevine (Continued on Page 2)

'War raging' between secular and religious over planned synagogue

SOME 2,000 Karmiel residents staged a protest last night at the cornerstone-laying ceremony of a synagogue and mikve in a non-religious neighborhood, fearing that its construction will lead to the establishment of a haredi community there.

During the protest, angry words were exchanged between residents of the Ha'irism neighborhood and haredim, and the two sides almost came to blows.

A sign at the site indicates that a complex will be built by the Ma'ayan Hatorah organization which will include a synagogue, a study hall, a mikve and a library.

"We are protesting the fact that they are building something haredi here in the middle of a non-religious neighborhood," said neighborhood resident Sigal Shaked. "And who says tomorrow they won't try to close off the street? They've already started asking about prices of homes here, and say the people are from Safed and have a lot of money to buy homes."

Mayor Adi Eldar said the municipality is continuing to provide religious services just as it provides other necessary services. "In a relatively new neighborhood, which includes hundreds of homes, there must be a synagogue," he said, adding that for now only the synagogue would be built. "It's too bad that they're raging a world war over a synagogue in Karmiel," he added. (Itim)

Netanyahu approves multinational monitoring group proposal

DAVID MAKOVSKY

IN HIS first substantive foreign policy decision since his victory, prime minister-elect Benjamin Netanyahu approved a proposal for the formation of a multinational monitoring group, which was to be established in the aftermath of Operation Grapes of Wrath.

Netanyahu's approval included his own "comments," an aide said, but apparently leaves intact the principles underpinning the outgoing Peres government's negotiating position.

In the past, the Likud has been critical of the results of Operation Accountability (1993) and Grapes of Wrath, leaving some wondering whether Netanyahu would seek to implicitly or explicitly scuttle the monitoring format in favor of a unilateral approach by Israel in southern Lebanon.

"I think you can see this decision as a first signal that the prime minister-elect means what he says that he is serious about the peace process," the aide said.

He noted that the people who are to inspect complaints by Israel or Lebanon of a violation of the US-brokered April cease-fire of Grapes of Wrath are "monitors" who on specific occasions investigate the site in question and are not permanent "peacekeepers" in the area. Israel has never viewed UNIFIL as an effective peacekeeper of southern Lebanon.

The whole notion of a monitoring group was to enforce the cease-fire, which was designed to keep civilians both in the Galilee and in southern Lebanon out of harm's way.

The premier-elect and top aides were extensively briefed on the monitoring group last week by Foreign Ministry Director General Uri Savir and top IDF officials. The Netanyahu decision was forwarded to Savir yesterday, and now diplomats from Israel, the US, France, Syria and Lebanon are supposed to hammer out the final terms, probably in Washington.

Netanyahu has made clear that he would not undertake major policy changes without first being thoroughly briefed, and being given a chance to see all classified information relating to the issue at hand.

Indeed, away from the spotlight on coalition negotiations, the premier-elect spends several hours a day receiving what some call "tutorials" on the issues at hand from top military and civilian officials, including the intelligence community. Among the issues that Netanyahu has been briefed on include the Lebanon monitoring group, Hebron and the Oslo 2 accord.

Imprisoned Palestinian human rights activist: My life is in danger

JON IMMANUEL

A SENIOR Palestinian human rights activist charged with drug possession claims he was framed and his life is in danger, in a letter smuggled out of Gaza Prison in which he pleaded for help.

"I have been beaten and my life is in danger. They are trying to frame me with drug charges. Rescue me, the situation is dangerous," the letter from Dr. Eyad Sarraj said, according to AP which said it had seen a copy of it.

Sarraj, a psychiatrist and director of the Independent Palestinian Commission for Citizens' Rights, was arrested Sunday night. On Tuesday, plainclothes police searched the Gaza Mental Health Center which he founded and claimed to find 95 grams of hashish among his papers.

Public Prosecutor Khalid Qidrah said that the office was raided because "we had information that he had drugs. Those who support Mr. Sarraj look at him as a defender of human rights but he is human, not an angel." He denied that Sarraj was beaten. "It is a big lie," he said. "I saw him. We don't beat anyone. Anyone who complains of beating complaints to us."

Sarraj was arrested last month after giving an interview in The New York Times in which he complained that he was 100 times less free to publish his opinions under the Palestinian Authority than under Israeli occupation. He was released after nine days following a published apology to PA President Yasser Arafat for any unintended personal offense he may have caused.

After his release, the IPCCR said it would sue Qidrah for wrongful arrest, although it was clear Arafat had ordered it. Last week Sarraj wrote to Arafat explaining that "instead of controlling me you should control the mechanism which undermines accepted standards of human rights."

Several members of the Palestinian Council, including Hanan Ashrawi, former director of the IPCCR, and Dr. Haidar Abdel- (Continued on Page 2)

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Netanyahu delays US trip

PRIME minister-elect Benjamin Netanyahu is postponing his scheduled inaugural visit to the US until early July, his aide Danny Naveh said yesterday, insisting time is needed both to properly prepare for the visit and enable a smoother transition so the government can at least begin its work.

Even if Netanyahu succeeds in putting together a government by next Monday, as some of his top aides hope, the target date of June 25 would have only given him one week to arrange an American visit.

Yet with coalition negotiations bogged down with some of the

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religious parties, it remains unclear whether Netanyahu could even put together a coalition by June 17 as his aides desired.

Moreover, observers speculate that if Netanyahu remains locked into an early US date, his coalition partners could seize upon this to obtain more advantageous terms, believing that the premier-elect is in a hurry to conclude the bargaining.

One possible by-product to the decision to delay going to the US is deflating the diplomatic build-

up leading to next week's Arab summit in Cairo. It seems the timing of the June 21-23 parley was designed intentionally to influence Netanyahu's meeting with President Bill Clinton immediately thereafter.

One idea that has been considered for Netanyahu's visit to the US is a commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the Entebbe rescue on July 4, 1976, when the premier's brother Yonatan was killed.

It remains unclear whether Netanyahu will make the US his first foreign stop. After his election in 1992, Yitzhak Rabin made his symbolic first trip to Cairo.



An IDF soldier watches as two Palestinian men pass his guard post in downtown Hebron. Israel had been scheduled to partially pull out of the town yesterday. (Reuter)

Milo: Netanyahu must meet Arafat eventually

IF the new government is serious about making peace with the Palestinians, sooner or later prime minister-elect Benjamin Netanyahu must meet with Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat, Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo said yesterday, a day after meeting senior PLO Executive Committee member Faisal Husseini.

Milo voiced confidence Netanyahu would meet with Arafat, but said he does not know when. "Eventually it will happen. I don't know when it will occur or how."

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new government may reconsider this position if foreign diplomats stopped visiting there, thus reducing its political significance.

Milo said he met with Husseini after consulting with a top Netanyahu aide. "I wouldn't have held a meeting like this had there been opposition on Netanyahu's part," Milo said on Army Radio. "I suppose [Husseini's] intention was to show that the doors are open."

Milo insists he did not discuss any diplomatic matters with Husseini.

However, it remains unclear whether Netanyahu actually authorized the meeting. Political sources insist Milo phoned in advance to consult, but when Netanyahu failed to return his call, Milo interpreted this as a go-ahead.

Yesterday afternoon, in an apparent bid to distance itself from the Milo meeting, Netanyahu's office issued a statement that only Netanyahu could designate someone to speak on his behalf with "the Arab or international

arena." For example, the premier-elect has designated foreign policy adviser Dore Gold to be a conduit to top Palestinian Authority official Mahmood Abbas.

However, several Palestinians are apparently trying to serve as conduits themselves, since Netanyahu refuses to directly deal with Arafat. New Likud MK Gideon Ezra, a former top official in the General Security Service, says he has been approached by unspecified Palestinians to set up a channel of communication.

While there were disputes within the Likud about whether Milo acted with authorization, the very notion of meeting with PLO officials does not disturb Likud officials anymore; a sea change from their past impassioned opposition to such meetings.

"We're no longer dedicating our lives to delegitimizing the PLO. We have been there and it's over. We're not going to fight past wars," Likud MK Tzahi Hanegbi said. "We are going to negotiate with the Palestinian Authority."

US official downplays missed Hebron withdrawal deadline

ASSISTANT Secretary of State for Near East Affairs Robert Pelletreau yesterday dismissed concern over the delayed Israeli withdrawal from Hebron, saying the matter must be worked out between incoming premier Benjamin Netanyahu and the Palestinian Authority.

In a hearing before the House International Relations Committee, Pelletreau also reiterated, in response to a question, that the US will continue to deduct from the loan guarantees to Israel any amount it spends on settlements in the territories.

The hearing was Congress's first with an administration official since Netanyahu won office two weeks ago, and Pelletreau was peppered with questions on

HILLEL KUTTLER WASHINGTON

what direction the peace process would now take.

Committee members also asked several times whether the administration believed the PNC had changed the PLO covenant, and Pelletreau responded that it had.

He repeatedly toed the administration's line that the US would reserve judgment on the new government until Netanyahu assumes office and outlines official policies.

On Hebron, which the IDF was to have redeployed from yesterday, Pelletreau noted that deadlines on implementing the Oslo agreements have passed be-

fore but that "as long as both parties understand the reasons why they're not met and continue to discuss them and work toward solutions and the direction is positive, then the deadline itself doesn't mean so much."

"I think we need to look at the attitude and direction as much as calendar dates in this regard," he added.

The US hopes and expects that Israel and the PA will "continue to work together to implement the agreements that have been reached," and that "there will be a basis found" for resuming Jerusalem-Damascus talks, he said.

Regarding Netanyahu's vic-

tory, Pelletreau said the US sees "no bar to us developing" as close a relationship with the new premier as it had with Shimon Peres and that "everything did not go out the window" in the peace process with Netanyahu's victory.

He said Netanyahu recognizes the "new currents" in the Middle East as an outgrowth of the peace process and that Netanyahu would not want Israel's gains to "dissipate."

"That is why he has reached out to Arab leaders in his initial phone calls... I think that we have a basis there to develop a working relationship with the new government... based on support for a peace process and going forward."

Palestinians cancel council meeting

JON IMMANUEL

THE 88-member Palestinian Legislative Council canceled a meeting in Nablus yesterday in solidarity with 22 members from Gaza who did not turn up because they refused to be searched at the Erez checkpoint.

The council decided it was an issue of principle, since the legislators were elected to represent both the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and were therefore entitled to free access to both areas.

However a spokesman for the government coordinator said Israel was entitled to check them for security reasons like any other Palestinian leaving Gaza, the radio reported.

Security measures have been stepped up since the spate of suicide bombings which ended March 4, but council members have met in Ramallah and Bethlehem since then and say there were not searched on those occasions.

Council member Ziad Ahn Amr said the security claim was ridiculous as all members were checked by Israel when they ran in the election for the council and were not considered security risks. As council members they should have VIP passes.

Arab diplomats meet in Ramat Gan

ARAB diplomats, representing four of the six countries with legations in Israel, met yesterday for the first time to consult on their peace process positions, and pledged to hold regular sessions in the future.

A 90-minute meeting was held at the Jordanian Embassy in Ramat Gan, attended by the senior diplomats of Jordan, Egypt, Tunisia and Mauritania. Future sessions will be held on a rotating basis among the Arab missions here.

Representatives of Morocco and Oman, which like Tunisia and Mauritania hold quasi-diplomatic ties with Israel, could not attend because they were out of the country.

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After the meeting, Jordanian Ambassador Omar Rifai said the session demonstrates how "Arab representation in Israel has become significant, and we saw fit to turn this into one grouping just as there are Arab diplomatic groupings in other capitals and other regional groupings of diplomats here in Israel."

"The fact that there are six Arab countries with representatives here in Tel Aviv is quite an achievement. We are part of a small but growing peace lobby among Arab countries," Rifai added.

Rifai became ambassador to Is-

rael at the end of March, after the previous envoy, Marwan Mnasher, was elevated to minister of information in the new Jordanian government.

While it is believed the Arabs discussed consultations in advance of next week's Arab summit in Cairo, the Jordanian envoy denied the consultations in Tel Aviv could be seen in that context.

After yesterday's meeting, veteran Egyptian ambassador Mohammed Bassionny indicated that Israelis should not be anxious about the Cairo summit. "If the new government in Israel moves forward on peace, I assure you that it will have all the support among the Arabs," he said.

Senior Islamic Jihad leader charged

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

A GAZA Strip military court yesterday charged Hassan Hawaj, a senior member of the Islamic Jihad, with planning to carry out attacks against Israeli targets and with plotting to kill Israeli and Palestinian security agents.

Hawaj, 28, was reportedly arrested last March by the General Security Service when he tried to return to the Gaza Strip. His arrest was revealed following yesterday's reading of the charge sheet at the military court at the Erez Junction.

According to the charge sheet, Hawaj underwent intensive military training in Iran and Lebanon and even met with Hizbullah leader Hassan Nasrallah, who appointed him that organization's liaison in the Gaza Strip. It said he was recruited into Islamic Jihad while attending medical school in Algiers.

His brother, Mohammed Hawaj, was the leader of the Islamic Jihad's military wing, but was killed in Gaza in June 1995. Soon after his brother was killed, Hawaj fled from Algiers to Syria and then on to Iran to receive support for the Islamic Jihad. He was told to return to the Gaza Strip to rehabilitate the movement and that he would receive hundreds of thousands of dollars in aid.

Following his studies in October 1995, Hawaj returned to the Gaza Strip and started organizing the military wing of Islamic Jihad.

According to the eight-page charge sheet, Hawaj was never officially a member of the Islamic Jihad. Nevertheless, he underwent weapons training at a Hizbullah base in the Bekaa valley in

Lebanon and later in Iran. According to the charge sheet, in late 1994, Hawaj visited Nasrallah who told him Hawaj was seen as Hizbullah's liaison in the Gaza Strip.

Hawaj also planned to assassinate the head of Palestinian internal security Amin Hindi, but that plan never materialized. He also initiated a membership drive in the West Bank, the charge sheet said.

Hawaj was seen as the link man between the Islamic Jihad in the Gaza Strip and Iran and Hizbullah. He was soon to have been appointed head of the movement's military wing, security sources told *Yedioth Aharanot*.

According to the charge sheet, Hawaj was planning to set up an explosives factory in Gaza with Iranian help and arranging for weapons to be smuggled into the strip.

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ansky has long rejected as the framework least likely to help immigrants. To be offered a deputy post in a ministry which the party did not to begin with is seen by YB as a slap in the face.

It is also unclear what any of the Likud ministerial hopefuls will end up with. MK Ze'ev Begin left his meeting with Netanyahu yesterday without saying a word. Likud insiders do not think he was gratified with what he heard, but Begin would not comment.

Herb Keinin adds:
Earlier in the day Netanyahu paid separate visits to the Jerusalem homes of former chief rabbis Mordechai Eliahu and Avraham Shapira, who hold a great deal of sway within the NRP. A Likud spokesman said the visit was to thank the rabbis for their support, but unofficially added that it was also an attempt to soften up the NRP's negotiating stance.

TALKS

No sooner did the crisis with the NRP appear to have been resolved, than Yisrael Ba'Aliya announced that it was breaking off negotiations with the Likud. YB says it is being discriminated against and taken for granted. While the NRP gets two well-padded portfolios and other perks, YB, with only two fewer MKs (the NRP won nine seats, YB seven), gets a single portfolio with a puny budget - Industry and Trade.

YB last night continued to demand Housing, arguing it is an essential tool to be used to help redress the grievances of its voters, which it cannot do with Industry and Trade.

YB was also offered a deputy minister in the Absorption Ministry, which YB leader Natan Shar-

ACTIVIST

"This is a clear set-up since Sarraj was arrested before they found the drugs," said one member of the council who insisted on anonymity. "I thought we were past these backward silly games. The Israelis should take a position on human rights in the territory - which is, after all, not under Palestinian sovereignty - if it wants to have a democratic partner."

"They are trying to humiliate him," said Bassim Eid of B'nei Men. "Sarraj has been put in Gaza prison in a cell with criminals."

Eid met Sarraj last Tuesday and heard him say that his interrogators warned him before he was released last month that he would be killed if he continued to criticize the PA. Qidrah said that Sarraj would not be released until his interrogation is over. He is to have a remand hearing this morning, Eid said.

Summit to focus on Netanyahu's words

DAVID MAKOVSKY

A CONTEMPORARY corollary to the old quote of David Ben-Gurion might be: "What the Arabs do might be based upon what the Jews say."

As the first Arab summit in six years convenes next week, bringing together the whole Arab world except Iraq to discuss, among other items, the election of Benjamin Netanyahu, diplomats and other experts make clear that what Netanyahu says or does until the parley convenes on June 21 will have a serious impact upon the outcome of the Cairo parley.

Until then, the Arabs will be gathering a post-election Netanyahu file to search for clues on his approach to the Middle East peace process.

As Jordan's ambassador Omar Rifai put it yesterday, "When the summit convenes, they will look at Netanyahu's statements and the guidelines of the new government since the election and judge accordingly. Therefore, a positive statement in Israel will lead to a positive statement in Cairo."

Obviously, the converse is also true. If the guidelines of the new government say that the Golan Heights will forever remain in Israeli hands, this will give Syrian President Hafez Assad "ammunition" in Cairo to press for a hard-line position, diplomats say privately.

BACKGROUND

It appears that Netanyahu has become aware of this, as security officials have said a leaked earlier version of the government guidelines was read by Assad in Damascus and contributed to the sharp tone of the communique released by Syria, Egypt and Saudi Arabia over the weekend.

Arab newspapers called the guidelines which appeared last week as "Netanyahu's three no's": the Golan, Palestinian statehood, and Jerusalem. Some Arab columnists say if Netanyahu repeatedly proclaims tough positions, he can do more for Arab unity than any Arab has been able to accomplish in a long time.

The leaked version of the guidelines that appeared in the press last Friday said, "In all peace agreements, the government will insist on Israeli sovereignty on the Golan Heights."

Yet in a revised draft of the guidelines issued by the Likud faction this week this sentence did not appear. The guidelines emphasized instead that talks with Syria would continue without preconditions. Moreover, references to settlements were modified.

Some issues may remain unambiguous. For example, the 1992

guidelines issued when the Rabin government was formed also included a reference (section four) to a "united and whole Jerusalem under Israeli sovereignty."

At the same time, Arabs may expect that Netanyahu not repeat what he said on the campaign trail: that he will not adhere to Oslo's commitment for the issue of Jerusalem to even be discussed. One official said privately that how things are phrased are critical.

"Saying things in a favorable rather than negative way does not mean you have given up anything," he said.

The issue is not only the government guidelines, but if a government forms next week the Arabs will be listening very closely to Netanyahu's maiden Knesset speech.

So far, however, Netanyahu is receiving relatively high marks from Arab and Western diplomats demonstrating post-election caution and restraint.

Just as Israelis say they like to hear what Arabs say in Arabic, Arabs now want to hear what Israelis say in Hebrew.

Grateful thanks to Prof. Ya'akov Mitzner, Prof. Reuben Or, the day-care staff, the hospice and home-care staff, and the social workers of Hadassah hospital and of Kupat Holim Meuhedet for their devoted care and treatment of the late PETER MUNAYYER. The Family

יהודים וישא

הכנסת ה-14

Deri remains in hospital for observation

SHAS leader MK Aryeh Deri was expected to remain in the hospital overnight to recover from the slight stroke he suffered Monday.

Deri was hospitalized after losing the feeling in his left side and experiencing chest pains. An examination revealed he had suffered a minor cerebro-vascular accident due to stress, apparently caused by a radio interview regarding reports he was trying to manipulate his way out of his trial.

Tests showed Deri suffered no other damage from the stroke, but doctors decided to keep him in the hospital for another day for observation. He was reported in good condition.

Meanwhile, his defense concluded presentation of its "no case" defense in Deri's trial in Jerusalem District Court. The court will now recess to allow

both defense and prosecution representatives to travel to England to hear testimony from Meir Brown, considered a crucial witness. The court is to convene on June 30, when the prosecution will respond to the defense's argument, which says that the prosecution failed to prove the charges it made against Deri.

Yesterday, lawyer Gilad Blau, representing Yom Tov Rubin who is also accused in the case, completed the "no case" presentation, saying that claims his client and others accused in the case bribed Deri to help them get alternate land for housing could not be true, since there would have been no need to do so since Deri himself also had an interest in obtaining an alternate site for the housing project in question. (Tim)



Prime minister-elect Binyamin Netanyahu (right) meets yesterday with the new president of AIPAC, Melvin Dow. (Yisrael Hadas)

Olmert considers his options as he awaits his indictment

JERUSALEM Mayor Ehud Olmert, facing indictment for his alleged involvement in a 1988 Likud campaign contribution cover-up, has yet to decide whether he will request a hearing with Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair, sources close to the mayor said yesterday.

The mayor is consulting with legal advisors on what course to take, and is confident the allegations against him will be proven unfounded, the sources added.

BILL HUTMAN

If indicted, Olmert could also try to avoid going to trial by fighting to keep his Knesset immunity. But that option, which is opened to all Knesset members facing criminal charges, has not yet been considered by the mayor, the sources said.

Olmert faces indictment in connection with fictitious receipts issued by the Likud in 1988 to businessmen contributing to the

party, showing they spent the money on advertising, as a way to get around fund-raising laws. Olmert served as party treasurer during the 1988 election campaign.

The mayor strongly denies the allegations. The sources noted the case against the mayor is based largely on the testimony of Likud fund-raiser Yona Peled, who himself was convicted on similar allegations, and whose testimony the court has found false in the past.

Court won't ask ex GSS chiefs to testify in Amirs' trial

FORMER General Security Service chiefs Ya'acov Perry and Karni Gillon will not be subpoenaed to testify in the trial of Yigal Amir, Haggai Amir, and Dror Adani, accused of conspiring to murder prime minister Yitzhak Rabin and to attack Arabs in Judea and Samaria.

Judges Amnon Strashnov, Shelly Timan, and Ze'ev Hammer ruled the two would not be asked to testify, but decided to agree to a request by Haggai Amir's lawyer, Moshe Meroz, to subpoena Margalit Har-Shefi, Etyakim Haetzni, and Avishai Raviv.

Michael Epstein, who was detained as part of the investigation of the Rabin assassination and was suspected of conspiracy, said yesterday that "Yigal Amir told me that his brother Haggai was working on a silencer."

Epstein said he told investigators that Amir had said it was necessary

to set up an organization prior to the IDF's withdrawal from the territories, and Epstein had agreed to join. However, under cross-examination, Epstein admitted Amir did not say anything specific about such an organization, gathering arms, or attacking Arabs.

Yisrael Shiryon, the Amirs' uncle and the security coordinator for the Shavei Shomron settlement, testified that he had filled out a blank form - signed by the district deputy brigade commander and recommending that weapons be given to whoever presented it - with the name of Haggai Amir, who was living with him at the time.

Shiryon admitted that the deputy brigade commander did not know Amir. Shiryon said he had recommended to Haggai Amir that he change his address to Shavli Shomron so he could more easily obtain a weapons license from the Interior Ministry. (Tim)

Rubinstein: Roman menagerie mosaic will be displayed

Jerusalem Post Staff and news agencies

THE rare 1,600-year-old Roman mosaic floor discovered in Lod will eventually be put on display either in the city where it was found or at the Israel Museum, Education and Culture Minister Amnon Rubinstein said yesterday, during a visit to the site where it was found.

Archaeologists uncovered the mosaic depicting a menagerie of wild animals in vibrant colors that appear unfaded by the passage of time.

"We carried out a test dig here because the municipality wanted to widen the road," said archaeologist Miriam Avisar. "We came across this magnificent mosaic which dates from the late Roman period, approximately from the end of the third century to the beginning of the fourth."

The mosaic, apparently the floor of a large room in a Roman villa, is filled with scenes of wild animals - lions, tigers, leopards, elephants, horses and antelopes - on the prowl or as prey.

Blood dripping from a horse attacked by a tiger shone bright yesterday as archeologists used brushes and water to remove centuries of dust. An ancient sailing ship rode the waves along with fish twice its size.

"We have almost never found a mosaic as complete as this one in Israel dating from this period," Avisar said.

She said Lod was a rich city during Roman times.

"It was on the crossroads from Gaza to Damascus and from Jaffa to Jerusalem," Avisar said.

Baryshnikov to perform at Caesarea

YOCHI DREAZEN

MIKHAIL Baryshnikov, the world-renowned ballet dancer, will visit Israel for the first time this August, when his White Oak Dance Project performs two shows in Caesarea's amphitheater.

The group is named after the estate of its benefactor, Howard Gillman, whose support has allowed the group to develop its modern approach to ballet.

But in a statement released by the tour, Baryshnikov explained that he prefers not to pigeonhole the group's style.

"Classical ballet? Modern ballet? What's the difference?" he said. "To my mind, there is good and there is bad, and I don't really see any other differences."

Baryshnikov's company - which includes 11 other dancers as well as five musicians - will be visiting the country as part of a tour of Africa, Europe, and Australia.

Baryshnikov, 43, was born in Riga, and studied dance in Leningrad's Vaganova School until age 16, when he joined the Kirov Ballet. In 1974, while touring with the Bolshoi, he defected to Canada.

After a long stint in New York - where he worked with Inimaries such as the City Ballet's George Balanchine and appeared on Broadway, television, and in movies such as *White Nights* - Baryshnikov founded the White Oak Dance Project in 1990.

Study: Women didn't count in election campaigns

ESTHER HECHT

NOW they've been counted, and they still don't count. That is the conclusion of two researchers who studied the number of times women and women's issues appeared in campaign broadcasts for the recent elections.

Only 17% (338) of the total of 1,966 people who appeared in the broadcasts were women, according to a study by Dr. Dafna Lemish, of the New School of Media Studies-College of Management, and Dr. Chava Tidhar, of Bar-Ilan University. There was virtually no change from 1988, when a similar study found that 16% of the 2,987 people in the broadcasts were women.

"I'm disappointed by the findings, because the significant advances in women's rights in the past decade are not at all reflected in the broadcasts and in the ways the parties related to women's issues," Lemish said of the study initiated by the Israel Women's Network, a non-partisan women's lobby.

"I was surprised to see women appearing much more prominently than in the past in campaign material of religious par-

ties - Shas and Yemin Yisrael. In Shas, women appeared especially in connection with education."

The parties differed greatly from each other in the representation they gave women in the broadcasts. Hadash led with 60% women, Meretz had 29%, Shas 25%, Labor 17%, and the Likud 9%. In 1988, the Arab parties (including Hadash) had the highest representation of women (16%).

Only 25 speakers (1.3%) related directly to subjects connected to the status of women, the researchers found. Also, women appeared primarily as anonymous figures, or as actresses, singers, or emcees, as opposed to men, who appeared in leadership roles. Women over 40 were hardly seen at all.

According to Lemish and Tidhar, these findings support the image portrayed in the broadcasts; namely, that in comparison to topics like peace and security, religious issues, and Jerusalem, the status of women is marginal and insignificant, and that Israeli society is run by, and will continue to be run by, men.

Five men charged with highway robbery

Five Upper Nazareth men were charged yesterday by Haifa District Court with highway robbery, kidnaping and aggravated extortion. They are accused of attacking three youths who were on their way from Kibbutz Nir Etzion to Haifa on election night, May 29. According to the indictment, the accused impersonated policemen and used their car to force the victims' car to stop. They searched the victims, took their car keys, and then drove them to an automatic bank teller, where they forced them at knifepoint to withdraw NIS 1,000.

The five are Haim Zoenishvili, 21, David Kakitshvili, 20, Daniel Nir (Nankishvili), 22, Ben-Zion Pinkashvili, 23, and Haim Hanan (Hannashvili), 20. (Tim)



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Yeltsin vows violence will not stop Russian poll

TIMOTHY HERITAGE
MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Boris Yeltsin vowed yesterday not to let violence disrupt Russia's presidential election after four people were killed in a bomb blast on the Moscow underground.

Yeltsin called for calm before Sunday's poll as Communists and nationalists marched through Moscow to mark Russia's Independence Day. Some of them carried anti-Yeltsin banners. More than 2,000 Communists marched under red Soviet flags to the former headquarters of the KGB security police and nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy pushed his campaign to become president in a separate march. Both rallies ended peacefully.

Yeltsin condemned Tuesday's bomb blast at Tul'skaya underground station in southern Moscow, in which two men and two women were killed, as a "sav- age, barbaric act."

"The best response to the machinations of the extremists will be a vote on June 16, a vote for civil peace, for stability, for the future of Russia," he said in a message to the people of Moscow. Presidential spokesman Sergei Medvedev quoted Yeltsin as saying: "The Russian election will go ahead as scheduled."

No one claimed responsibility for the bomb, which went off under a seat in a metro car. Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov said he could not rule out the possibility that Chechen separatists had planted it, but offered no evidence to support this. The Chechen diaspora in Moscow called the attack "barbaric" and sent its condolences.

Luzhkov, a Yeltsin ally, said the bomb was intended as a blow

against his own bid for re-election on Sunday. His running mate, Valery Shantsev, was hurt in a bomb attack last Friday.

Yeltsin, 65, leads most opinion polls for Sunday's election, which will decide the fate of reforms. Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov, 51, says his party's own polls put him ahead of the Kremlin leader.

Neither is likely to win an overall majority on Sunday and they are expected to fight a run-off in early or mid-July.

Communists were in no mood to celebrate yesterday's national holiday marking Russia's declaration of sovereignty within the Soviet Union in 1990. It is also the fifth anniversary of Yeltsin coming to power.

"We voted for Yeltsin and the country fell, fell, fell. Now we need another change," said 61-year-old Lida Ivanova, who joined the Communist Party in 1993.

Some of the Communists had banners supporting the radical communist Working Russia party. A few carried placards saying "Yeltsin is an enemy of the people" - evoking a phrase used during the purges of late Soviet dictator Josef Stalin.

In the far eastern port of Magadan, a memorial was unveiled to the millions who died in Stalin's slave labor camps. It was the first monument of its kind in Russia to commemorate them.

"We have to stop a return to the time when killing and death was a normal affair," Alexander Yakovlev, a member of Yeltsin's campaign team, echoing Yeltsin's charges that victory for Zyuganov would mean a return to the past. Zyuganov denies this.



Residents of Russia's Yamal peninsula on the Arctic Ocean cast their ballots earlier this week in their presidential elections. Most of Russia will be voting next week. (AP)

New Indian government wins vote of trust

JAWED NAQVI
NEW DELHI

INDIAN Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda won a vote of confidence in parliament yesterday, ending six weeks of political turmoil in the world's most populous democracy.

The government won by voice vote after a 12-hour debate over two days.

"The motion is adopted," P.S. Sangma, speaker of the lower house, told the lawmakers at the end of the nationally televised session.

The prime minister's center-left government had the support of some 332 lawmakers in the 545-member house and had been expected to breeze through the vote.

Deve Gowda's United Front alliance has some 190 members and had been promised the support of former prime minister Narasimha Rao's Congress party, which finished a humiliating second in the general elections in April and May with 140 seats.

The opposition Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has 195 members. A short-lived BJP government headed by Atal Bihari Vajpayee resigned on May 28 when it became

clear it could not muster support to win a confidence vote.

The two-day debate was overshadowed by the BJP's efforts to rake up corruption issues in an effort to embarrass the new government and its ally, Rao's former ruling Congress party.

Federal police said yesterday they had registered a case linking Rao to allegations a regional party received money to help him defeat a no-confidence motion in 1993.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) filed the case after the Supreme Court on Tuesday upheld a lower court order directing the agency to register a fresh probe into the allegations.

Analysts said the case added pressure on Rao to step down at a meeting of Congress leaders set for today. On Tuesday the BJP sought to exploit a fer-

tilizer scandal. Federal police said a suspect in the scandal, which involved kickbacks, had implicated one of Narasimha Rao's sons, P.V. Prabhakar Rao. Prabhakar Rao has denied the charges.

Deve Gowda detailed the progress of the investigations in the fertilizer scandal and promised to put the facts before the house once the enquiry was over.

"After the enquiry, I am going to place the details before the house," the 63-year-old prime minister said.

He denied that the Congress party was putting pressure on the government to hush up the fertilizer scandal.

"No Congress leader up till now has discussed the issue. Nobody has interfered in this matter up till now," Deve Gowda said.

The next hurdle for Deve Gowda will be to present a budget for the 1996/97 financial year that began on April 1, balancing the interests of his coalition partners who range from free traders to Communists.

Ciller, Turk Islamists see possible coalition

ANKARA (Reuters) - Members of Turkish conservative leader Tansu Ciller's True Path Party (DYP) said yesterday the way was open for a government coalition with the powerful Islamist Welfare Party (RP).

"A DYP-RP coalition looks possible at the moment. On Friday the leaders will come together and it will become clearer after that," a DYP deputy who asked not to be named told Reuters.

Other MPs from the party said a deal with the Islamists was under discussion.

Islamist leader Necmettin Erbakan, whose party has the most members in parliament, has been asked to form a new government after the collapse last week of a three-month-old secularist coalition.

"The path is open to a possible DYP-RP coalition," another of Ciller's MPs said. "But it is very difficult to say what the details of (tomorrow's meeting) will be."

Islamist MPs, meanwhile, said the two parties had already begun secret coalition talks.

Political analysts have given Erbakan little chance of forming a government because of fears he would introduce religion into public life and veer officially secular Turkey away from the Western camp.

Ciller and Erbakan, who has so far been spurned by other secularist parties, are due to hold preliminary coalition talks tomorrow.

But former premier Ciller earlier repeated a call for a four-way secularist alliance to block the Islamists.

"Come and let's get to an agreement to form a government," Anatolian news agency quoted her as saying in remarks aimed at three other mainstream parties.

She made no reference to reports in the Turkish press yesterday that she was close to making a deal with the Islamists.

Several newspapers, including the pro-Ciller *Sabah* daily, said her party had agreed with Welfare on dividing cabinet seats among themselves.

US may extend troop deployment in Bosnia

JOHN DIAMOND
SKOPJE, Macedonia

US troops should remain on the ground in Bosnia with NATO forces next year if needed to prevent an outbreak of war, US Defense Secretary William Perry said yesterday. In his most far-reaching comments to date on an extended US mission in Bosnia, Perry raised the possibility of continued use of NATO air power or of a ground-based "rapid-reaction force" that could quash renewed fighting among the ethnic factions.

Perry was uncertain what decision NATO would make, but was unequivocal that the United States should stay the course with its allies.

"NATO will not want simply to give up on the investment that

they've made in Bosnia and if they feel that some further action is necessary to preserve the peace in Bosnia, they may very well determine to maintain a NATO force to do that," Perry told reporters en route to this Balkan nation.

"If they make that decision, it would be my recommendation that the United States participate in that decision, and participate in any force that is so designated, including ground troops," Perry said.

Those comments raised the specter for President Clinton of a pre-election decision to prolong

the US military presence in the war-torn region. As outlined by Perry, the likely options would involve a force far smaller than the roughly 20,000 US troops participating in NATO's Peace Implementation Force (IFOR).

But the decision would require an admission by Clinton that NATO's work could not be done in a single year, as advertised last December at the outset of the mission.

It is also possible, according to Perry, that the critical decisions about a continuing military mission in Bosnia could be delayed until after the US presidential

election in November. Perry noted that NATO's major annual meetings of foreign ministers and defense chiefs take place in December.

Perry's remarks go far beyond past comments by the defense secretary and top US commanders in Europe about a modest extension of IFOR into January. On that subject, Perry reiterated past statements that some reduced element of IFOR may remain past the December 20 date originally given as the deadline for total pullout of US ground troops along with the rest of IFOR.

Perry is beginning a five-day European trip that will include meeting with NATO allies in Belgium.

Lott picked as US Senate majority leader

WASHINGTON (AP) - Republicans in the US Senate yesterday chose Mississippi's Trent Lott as majority leader to succeed the just-ended Bob Dole, opting for a more aggressive and conservative politician to run the Senate during this heated election year.

A genial, if brashly ambitious man, Lott was among the last of the Senate Republicans to endorse Dole's presidential candidacy. And as majority whip - the Republican's No. 2 office - he had none-too-subtly coveted the majority leadership post long before Dole announced last month that he would quit the Senate to campaign full time.

Senate aides said Republican senators elected Lott, 44, over fellow Mississippian Thad Cochran, a more reserved man who is equally conservative politically.

In choosing their first new Republican leader since 1985, the senators said they were looking for a pragmatist who could get work done. They said they believed Lott could do the job even though some say he is less compromising than Dole was.

'Gas caused Brazilian mall blast'

SAO PAULO (Reuters) - Trapped gas caused an explosion in a crowded shopping mall that killed at least 39 people and injured hundreds of others, officials said yesterday, citing preliminary findings.

They said gas trapped under the concrete floor of the mall's food court ignited, possibly as a result of an electrical short circuit, causing Tuesday's blast.

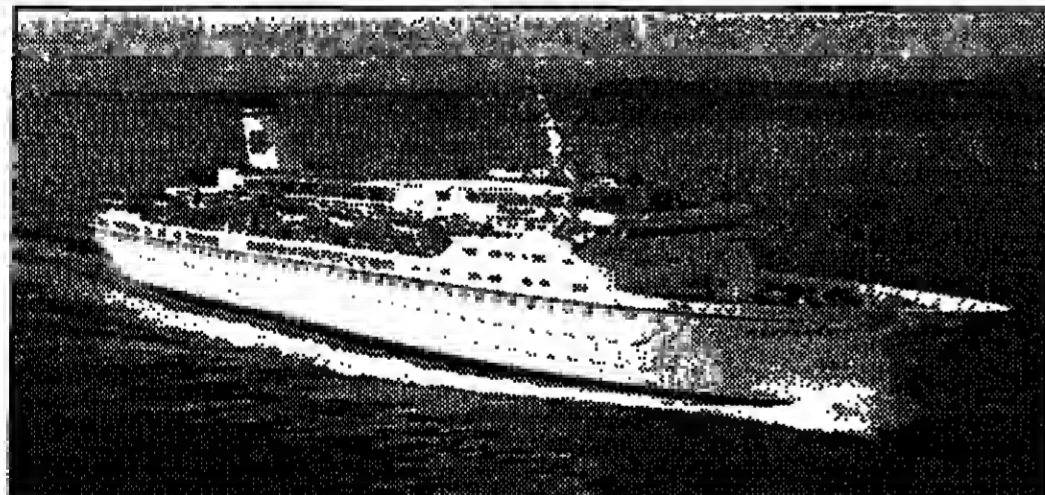
"Preliminary information we have is that there was an accumulation of gas in a concrete box under the floor," said Jorge Cheibob, director of Sao Paulo's buildings department.

Rescue workers continued to dig yesterday for victims in the rubble of the Osasco Shopping Plaza, in a middle-class suburb of Sao Paulo.

Civil defense officials coordinating rescue efforts said the death toll rose to 39 overnight, with more than 470 people reported hurt in the blast.

Late on Tuesday night, rescuers recovered a month-old baby alive from the debris.

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A cause for celebration

THERE is something refreshing about the way Turkey has treated its military agreements with Israel. Although it is a Moslem state on excellent terms with most of the Moslem regimes, Turkey is quite open about its close cooperation and joint training projects with Israel.

socio-economic goals are closer to those of the democratic world than to the frozen backwardness of its Islamic neighbors. This is also the way Turkey represents itself in its competition with Iran for influence in the Moslem republics in central Asia.

Turkey has also learned from bitter experience that Syrian dictator Hafez Assad's reputation as a man of his word is a myth propagated by Western governments wishing to do business with him.

If there is a greater disappointment than the inability of the Turkish parliamentary majority to unite, it is Washington's thunderous silence about the Turkish-Israeli ties.



The dogs of war

WHEN Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah joined Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak recently for a mini-conference of Arab leaders in Damascus, he had far more on his mind than just brandishing the big stick at Bibi Netanyahu.

Swiss and other private bank accounts. If Abdullah gets shoved aside by his Sultan or others, the women's status at the palace will suffer drastic downgrading.

Abdullah is only too aware - as is Israel - that President Assad has a stack of some 1,000 short, middle- and long-range ground-to-ground missiles.

While the Labor government was busy billing Assad as ready for peace, it kept quiet about his poison factory.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CREDIT FOR HISTORIC CHANGE
Sir, - Ever since the results of the elections to the 14th Knesset were announced, the media have devoted considerable space to the question of who was responsible for the historic and revolutionary political upheaval that brought about the third defeat of the Labor Party headed by Shimon Peres and the victory of Binyamin Netanyahu.

THE GREAT CALCULATOR
Sir, - David Makovsky writes, correctly, that "by being hard-nosed in the peace negotiations with Labor over the last four years, Assad... contributed heavily to Prime Minister Peres's defeat" (June 4). So Makovsky calls Assad "the Great Calculator," but wrongly.

JERUSALEM, CAPITAL OF ISRAEL
Sir, - How very strange and contradictory we British are! In 1917, the then foreign secretary, Lord Balfour, issued the declaration... "His Majesty's Government view with favor the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people and will use their best endeavors to facilitate the achievement of this object."

Yet the person who should be given credit for this upheaval is almost completely ignored. I refer to Brigadier-General Avigdor Kahalani, the devoted member of Rabin's and Peres's Labor party who left it in February to set up the new center party, The Third Way.

Peres offered Assad the Golan in exchange for complete normalization of relations between the two countries. Suppose Assad had accepted. Then the international pressure would have begun on him to give Lebanon back to the Lebanese.

Psalm 147 states "The Lord builds up Jerusalem. He gathers the exiles of Israel." From the time the Psalms were written during the time of King David, the Jewish monarch, Jerusalem has been the capital of the land that the Almighty promised to the Jewish people as inheritance forever.

These four seats, together with the seven of Yisrael Ba'aliya, will prevent a majority coalition, even with the religious bloc. This is a significant political and historic achievement in Zionist history.

Together with his offer, Peres constantly proclaimed that, in the New Middle East, all the countries would turn into Western-style capitalist democracies. As Assad heard it, Peres was aiming to sweep away all the existing Arab regimes, not just his own.

Contrary to the statement, by our present Foreign Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, that "Israel is in military occupation of East Jerusalem and only has de-facto authority over West Jerusalem"... it is the Gentile nations who have been in military occupation of Jerusalem throughout the last 2,000 years.

ANTI-ISRAEL BIAS
Sir, - One of the things which truly made me sick about foreign media was its anti-Israel and anti-Jewish bias. I could never get a straight story out of the papers abroad about what was happening here.

So Assad opposed, blocked and sabotaged the Peres policy in every possible way. Since Makovsky credits Assad with succeeding, he should rather call him "the Great Calculator."

London. NEW KNESSET OPPOSITION
Sir, - One might attribute MK Ran Cohen's vilification of the religiously observant, the "settlers," the Likud and all others who did not vote for Meretz as "the sour grapes" of a highly desiring loser (May 31).

I expected a different situation here. But I am shocked to find that the local media, including the Post, recorded the events of Shavuot morning, but left out a small detail. I have lost every drop of respect for the Post for not mentioning the stones thrown upon the Jews beforehand.

The mufi's message boils down to seeking peaceful relations without seeking full relations between the two states, thus avoiding dangerous concessions. This is exactly what Netanyahu now offers Assad. So Assad was "the Great Calculator" indeed!

Thank God Mr. Cohen will now have four years, ken yirbu (may they multiply), to reflect on and correct his prejudices from the perspective of the Knesset opposition benches. MOSHE BERLIN

PICTURE POSTSCRIPT



The parchment we have these days for pasting an advertisement on every available space is getting out of hand: this fellow manages to get his message across even at the Western Wall, proving that absolutely nothing is sacred. The script reads: "There is no peace without holy Shabbat. Shabbat Shalom to you, Israel. (signed) The Western Wall Man"

Seeing is believing

DAVID NEWMAN

HERE we go again. They're wheeling out the heavy artillery. Journalists and publicists, notably media darling Yosef (Tommy) Lapid, are lambasting the "round-spectacle" brigade, the "Sheinkin crowd," for their lack of values and immature arrogance, their refusal to accept the verdict of the country in the magnificent display of democracy evidenced in the elections.

Outside Beit Sokolov (the journalists' headquarters) in Tel Aviv recently, I passed a three-woman demonstration protesting what they viewed as the left-wing bias of the media.

But before you file me away under the stereotype, I should add that I attend synagogue, eat kosher, send my children to State-Religious schools and to the Bnei Akiva youth movement, in which I myself grew up.

It is part of the stereotyping in our society, where it is virtually impossible to be an individual. You have to belong to a group - and once you belong, you are expected to think, act, and speak like the rest of the group.

I MUST be schizophrenic. During the week I mix with the left-wing, academic, bohemian, "round-spectacle brigade," many of whom do indeed pour unnecessary scorn on religion and the religious.

Uh-oh... those round spectacles give one away every time. Or do they?

I then go home and see some of my neighbors and fellow worshippers - the knitted kippa, yeshiva high school, ardent nationalist brigade - who, in turn, pour equally unnecessary scorn on the secular world.

Live together in national unity? What a joke. The extent to which each side stereotypes the "other" makes it just another Israeli miracle that the whole thing didn't blow up long ago.

And, meanwhile, they continue to talk about a "status quo" which has been constantly changing since the day it came into existence.

My unholly shatez of round spectacles and kippa is viewed suspiciously by both sides. Surely I am too traditional to be invited to Friday-night social gatherings, yet too secular to be part of religious festivities?

What really seems to throw them are those round spectacles, which just don't "belong." So nobody knows what box to put me in? Too bad, I'll just go on wearing those glasses.

The writer directs the Humphrey Institute for Social Research at Ben-Gurion University.

Handwritten signature or note at the bottom right of the page.

העיתון הירושלמי

From LA to TA: A new perspective for teens

American teenagers here on a program called Operation Unity say their five-week visit has opened their minds, reports Jessica Steinberg

THEY sit around the communal room at their dorm on the kibbutz, 10 teenagers, all from the Los Angeles area. They look like Israeli teenagers, with slight stylistic differences. Merin Ciophia's low-slung, cut-off shorts; Nyesha Favorite's six-foot-long frame and head covered with shoulder-length braids; Giovanni Valencia's pencil-thin mustache.

There are some other variations, but what amazes these African-American and Latino high-school seniors most is how their color is defined here in Israel.

"It's like they can smell Americans coming from a mile away," Valencia says, grinning.

"They kept on saying 'Chicago, Chicago,'" laughs Enrique Carmona, a stocky 18-year-old.

Tracee Anderson, a sweet-faced 18-year-old, sums it up: "They make me feel more American here," she says. "We're not looked at like blacks or Hispanics, we're just these Americans."

From their lips to Cookie Lommel's ears. Lommel is the African-American journalist from Los Angeles who founded Operation Unity, the program that sent these 10 students from Los Angeles to spend about five weeks at Kibbutz Beit Zera in northern Israel. The goal is to create lines of communication between the African-American and Jewish communities and to develop the teenagers' leadership abilities, as well as their multicultural awareness.

Lommel said she feels that a kibbutz is the best environment for such an endeavor, with its emphasis on cooperation and its strong work ethic.

"The ultimate goal here is to understand the importance of people working together," Lommel said while in-Israel in May to visit her recruits. "How people who wanted something had to work together to create it, how they worked together from the ground up."

As a freelance writer for music trade publications, Lommel had been a front-row observer of black artists and Jewish music executives working together and couldn't understand why this wasn't occurring in the outside world. After a 1991 trip here to witness the integration of Ethiopian Jews into Israeli society, she came up with the idea of immersing African-American teenagers into Israeli-Jewish society.

It took three years for Lommel to raise the money for the first Operation Unity in the summer of 1994. Finally, with the assistance of various council members and community leaders, the funds were raised and the first 10 teenagers were sent off with Sandy Wolfson - the high-school guidance counselor who assisted in the rigorous recruitment and selection process and is still involved with the program.

"The premise was that we wanted kids who were not completely living up to their full potential," Lommel says. "Teachers from one of the participating schools would call me up and tell me that they had a kid who would really benefit from the program."

She talks about the students from the previous trip, such as Jesse, whose probation officer believes that without this opportunity, the 18-year-old would have been dead by the end of the summer due to gang involvement. By



Participants in the Operation Unity program rave about the freedom of kibbutz life and its lack of formalities. (Sani Uziely)

the following winter, after the program, Jesse was speaking in front of the Optimists' Club, a business association that was working to raise college funds for him.

Sean, another past participant, made the rounds at churches, synagogues and schools, and after an appearance at Hebrew Union College, the rabbi who had introduced him asked if he could hire

him for their faculty.

"They're that inspired after the program," Lommel says. "They see that you can make changes over the course of time, that anything really is possible."

TALKING TO the teenagers themselves, it's easy to see that five weeks of kibbutz life has altered their perspectives. They speak excitedly about learning

Hebrew, meeting Israeli teenagers, and touring the country. Their main complaint seems to revolve around food, especially the kibbutz kitchen fare, although they've solved that with biweekly pizza outings in Tiberias.

They're amazed by the freedom of kibbutz life, the unlocked doors and cars, the bicycles that sit outside the public buildings, for use by kibbutz members.

"Someone's shoes were sitting outside their door for a whole week and no one touched them," Valencia says in amazement. "You see 80-year-olds on bicycles and no one thinks that's weird."

Alice Talamantes, a 19-year-old with short bleached hair and a row of earrings marching up her left ear, is fascinated by the lack of formalities.

"One old lady," she says, "she

just came up to me and put her hand on my cheek and asked me to get her a cup of coffee. Just like that."

"They always want to play with my braids," says Favorite, who works with five-year-olds in one of the kibbutz kindergartens. "They rub my skin to see if the color will come off, and they always ask me where I really come from."

The teenagers also are fascinated by the land itself, its history, its politics.

"There's ruins all over the place here," Talamantes comments. "We went to Beit Gurvin and there's no question that it feels older than LA. There's also this spiritual thing here. Like at the Wall, you felt that you were close to God. I put a note in the Wall. I hope He hears me."

Their experiences, both in and out of the kibbutz, have also fused them into a cohesive group. Talamantes says that before this trip she had no African-American friends, but that this program has expanded her perspective.

"I'm more open-minded now," she says. "We'll bicker, me and Robert, but it's just teasing. He's cool and I wouldn't have known that before the trip."

"It's been the ongoing group experiences," Anderson says. "We're away from home and that gives us a different perspective. I thought Merin was real quiet at the first workshop and then we started talking and I think we'll keep in touch now."

Carmona, who has been fairly quiet for the session, pipes in with his two cents.

"Everyone hangs out with their own group because it's easier on one if you've never talked to that person before," he explains. "But it doesn't mean that you won't hang with the others."

"Basically," Talamantes says, "we've all had the curiosity to expand our minds, and it wouldn't have mattered if we were Latinos or blacks or Chinese or Japanese. All I know is that I don't want to leave. Let's just get lost and find jobs in Tel Aviv."

Accept that the problem is from within

DEAR RUTHIE,
RUTHIE BLUM

For the past 10 years, I have been having an affair with a married man. It started when I was still married, but I have since divorced. My lover has no intention of leaving his wife, and I accept this. I have begun looking around to meet other men, all the while continuing my affair. The problem is that nobody compares to my lover, so I have trouble starting a new leaf.

Affairs of the Heart
Disheartened
Somewhere in Israel
Dear Heart-Disheartened,
Starting a new leaf is an internal process put into effect by external measures - not the other way around. Having gone through a divorce, you of all people should realize this.

Though you may believe you accept your lover's choice, your behavior indicates otherwise. Continuing the affair while "looking" elsewhere can mean one of two things, or a combination of both: either you are not genuinely seeking another partner or you need your lover as an invisible shield against other men.

When you were married, your husband provided this shield - in the background of your affair. Now that you are divorced, you may be transferring your husband's role on to your lover. Sorting all this out won't necessarily help you find "Mr. Right," but it will open you up to the

possibility of meeting him, or to the possibly unpleasant realization that you may not really want a sole soulmate in your life.

Dear Ruthie,
I read a book about how to add romance and enhance sexual excitement in a marriage. After following all the suggested steps, all I got was teased by my husband.

Worse than that, he got annoyed when I lit candles around the bedroom, and wax dripped onto his shoe. His idea of romance is a quickie before setting the alarm clock. You always say that changes in one's behavior can cause changes in the behavior of others. This is proof that you're wrong.
Quickie Alarmed.
Tel Aviv
Dear Quickie Alarmed,
I still believe that changes in one's behavior can affect that of others. Perhaps your following of steps in a "how-to" manual is actually a behavioral pattern completely in keeping with your usual tendencies.

If so, your husband's response to the "romantic" trappings is probably very familiar. To change, one must act out of character.

In your case, this may entail having to turn the pre-alarm-setting quickie into a prolonged sexual adventure.

By igniting the right wick, all the others will become superfluous. Not to mention less damaging to your husband's precious

Dear Ruthie,
A friend of mine was fired over a year ago. Since then, I have been active in trying to find him another job through various connections.

Each time I provide him with a new contact, however, he fails to follow through (doesn't show up at interviews, demands too much money, etc.).
Each time I tell myself that it is the last time and that I will not involve myself in his career decisions. But then he returns to complain about being out of work, and pity gets the better of me. How can I get him to stop seeking my help, when it's clear he doesn't want it?
Friend in a Fury
Ramalayim
Dear F in F,
The best course of action would be to teach yourself not to fall prey to the whines of guilt and pity which this person evokes.

Extricating oneself from the emotional manipulation of others is not as difficult as it tends to feel, however. Sometimes, even a solitary refusal to a trivial request is enough to break even a particularly vicious cycle.

You can test this premise by having "run out" of contacts the next time your former colleague comes knocking at your office door. And keep guilt at bay by reminding yourself that he hasn't shown himself genuinely ready to oilize them anyway.

Letters should be addressed to: "Dear Ruthie," POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. For E-mail: editors@jpost.co.il

Teaching values: One school's approach

At Annandale High School, a melting pot of Asian, Latino, black and white students in the Virginia suburbs adjoining Washington DC, parents and teachers this year gave birth to a character education program based on what they call the "seven cornerstones of character": honesty, citizenship, fairness, caring, responsibility, respect and self-discipline.

Lorraine Johnson, a math teacher at Annandale High and the parent of a senior there, was an early skeptic of the character initiative. "I thought we would be pushing our values on someone else," said Johnson, who at 48 has been teaching for 25 years.

But in the months since the cornerstones of character were adopt-

ed and her fellow teachers began incorporating them into their lessons, Johnson has come to see them as "just common sense, the way people should behave."

The seven virtues embraced by Annandale, added Johnson, "might seem like consensus, but it's not clear the kids learn them at home... They think it's perfectly acceptable to cheat on a test." Following advice from the burgeoning industry of experts in character education, the organizers of Annandale's program sought out parents and students early in the process to hammer out a list of values that all could agree on. In several sessions last summer, the committee of volunteers huddled to draft such a list.

THE EXERCISE was revealing. Although participants say the

process was surprisingly free of acrimony, the exchanges offered a glimpse into the conflicting impulses of American adults as they grapple with a perceived moral crisis.

Several teachers and parents, for instance, rejected "tolerance" as a proposed cornerstone. Some argued that in a world where right is right and wrong is wrong, that tolerance was just a bit too accepting. Others argued that tolerance was not quite positive enough. For many minorities, for instance, they argued it was not enough just to be tolerated; one wanted to be respected as well. All of those involved, however, could agree that "respect" covered the necessary territory.

Others wanted to zero in on student behavior by stiffening penalties for cheating, indiscipline and

infractions of the school's dress code. But teachers like Pat Giegerich, a 43-year veteran of teaching who spearheaded Annandale's effort, urged them to "fight back the impulse" to "treat" symptoms and argued that teaching students larger lessons about respect and responsibility would have a more lasting effect on their behavior.

"People want instant solutions," said Giegerich. "But you can't stop cheating unless you create people who value honesty."

"This is about creating a society in which people have a stake and treat people the way they would want to be treated. And discipline has to be part of that. Discipline based on coercion and threats alone is not going to work."

(Los Angeles Times)

MAP OF JERUSALEM
THE NEW STREET ATLAS


From the MAP computer team, which published the clear and readable Israel New Road Atlas - a spiral-bound, backpack/purse-sized street atlas of the capital, user-friendly for the driver and pedestrian - IN ENGLISH.


Includes new neighborhoods and nearby suburbs, as well as Bethlehem; large-scale map of the Old City; detailed maps with full-color computer graphics include main traffic arteries; useful information on location of all types of facilities. Includes main traffic routes for Tel Aviv & Metropolitan area (Gush Dan) and Haifa Regional Map. General Index. Softcover, 68 pp.

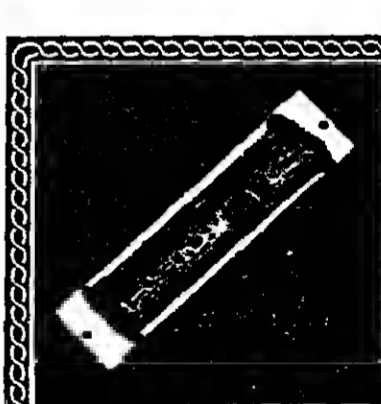
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Key Representative Rates table showing US dollar, Sterling, and Mark exchange rates.

NYSE STOCK MARKET table showing various market indices and their changes.

Other stock market indexes table including FTSE 100, Nikkei, and DAX.

Israeli stocks in NY table listing various Israeli companies and their stock prices.

Continued on page 10

LIBOR RATES table showing interest rates for various terms and currencies.

Foreign financial data table listing various international financial metrics.

CommStock Trading Ltd. advertisement for futures, options, and mutual funds.

US COMMODITIES table listing prices for various commodities like oil and grains.

Spot market metals table showing prices for various metals.

New York metal futures table listing prices for various metal futures.

London metal futures table listing prices for various metal futures.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Main Tel Aviv Stock Market table with columns for Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading, and AFTERNOON/MORNING trading.

Poor showings on Wall Street send TASE stocks lower

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

FELICE MARANZ



Stocks sank after rising yesterday following declines in Israeli companies traded on Wall Street, including Koor Industries and the Israel Corp.

London shares rise amid quiet trading

LONDON - Shares ended modestly higher in a quiet market still largely dominated by US concerns.

NY stocks give back gains as bonds worsen

NEW YORK (AP) - Stocks gave back most of their gains yesterday as bonds worsened again, sending interest rates to new one-year highs.

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

Table showing currency cross-rates for Mark, Sterling, Yen, SFr, and FF.

Handwritten note: 48/100/150

Lancs, Northants to meet in B&H final

LONDON (Reuters) - A brilliant 81 from Warren Hegg and some desperate hitting from the tail saw defending champions Lancashire book their place in the Benson and Hedges Cup final with a thrilling one-wicket win from the last ball of their semi-final against Yorkshire yesterday.

Their opponents in the final at Lords on July 13 will be Northamptonshire which completed a 27-run win over Warwickshire at Northampton.

The roses match at Old Trafford produced a classic game with fortunes swinging either way right up to the last ball when number 11 Peter Martin carved Craig White into the covers and beat Michael Vaughan's fierce return to collect the two runs still required.

Chasing Yorkshire's 250 for five after Tuesday's rain-hit day, Lancashire had crashed to 97 for five before some inspired

batting from Neil Fairbrother and Warren Hegg put them back in line for their fifth final in nine years.

Fairbrother made a rapid 59 but when he was cleverly run out by White, sidefooting the ball at the stumps, Lancashire was still 90 runs short and the game had swung back to Yorkshire.

Hegg, however, produced an inspired performance, which won him the man of the match award, as he smashed 81 from just 62 balls. When he was bowled by White, Yorkshire again looked the likely winners but Martin and Chapple scrambled the eight runs still needed from the last over.

Yorkshire's commanding total came by virtue of an undefeated 167-run fifth-wicket partnership between Australian Michael Bevan (95 not out) and Richard Blakey (80) after Yorkshire had slumped to 83 for five.

Northants, who won the trophy for the only time in 1980, secured their place in the final thanks to some inspired fielding from Tim Walton whose two brilliant runouts spoiled Warwickshire's hopes of a return to Lords.

Resuming on 91 for three after rain washed away a large chunk of Tuesday's play, Warwickshire, which has reached five of the last six one-day finals, made brisk progress towards its victory target of 221.

Stroke-makers Dominic Ostler, Paul Smith and Trevor Penney took the score on to 149 for four before Walton, who had rescued his side with a gutsy unbeaten 70 the previous day, struck from the outfield.

Racing in from deep mid-wicket as Penney came back for a second, he hit the stumps from 40 meters for a crucial run-out.

Two overs later he pounced again as Smith tried to pinch a single to backward point and again knackered down the stumps, this time at the bowler's end.

Warwickshire fell to pieces, slipping to 159 for eight with 10 overs to spare. Captain Dermot Reeve - so often his side's savior in crucial clashes - did his best to stop the rot but ran out of partners as the visitors were bowled out for 193.

The 23-year-old Walton, brought in for out-of-form opener Alan Fordham, was named man of the match.

At Northampton: Northamptonshire beat Warwickshire by 27 runs. Northamptonshire 226-7 (innings closed) (T. Walton 70 not out), Warwickshire 193 in 47.5 overs.

At Old Trafford: Lancashire beat Yorkshire by one wicket. Yorkshire 250-5 (innings closed) (M. Bevan 95 not out, R. Blakey 80 not out), Lancashire 251-9 (innings closed) (W. Hegg 81, N. Fairbrother 59).

Israel names Atlanta squad

HEATHER CHAIT

THIRTY-seven days before the Olympic Games open in Atlanta, the Israeli delegation was named yesterday in Tel Aviv.

Twenty-four athletes and 13 coaches are included in the squad which, together with officials, will number approximately 50.

The team consists of Yael Arad, Oreo Smadja (judo), Gocha Chichiasvili (wrestling), Nir and Ran Chantal, Shani Kedmi and Anat Fabrikant, Gal Friedman (maritime), Rogel Nabum, Constantin Matushevich, Constantin Simyonev, Danny Krasnov (track and field), Vacislav Ivanovsky (weightlifting), Boris Polak, Alex Tripolski, Guy Starek (shooting), Lydia Hatoel-Zuckerman, Ariel Ohayon, Liach Parisky (fencing), Vacislav Neiman (boxing), Yoav Bruck, Vadim Alexeev, Dan Kutler and Eytan Orbach (swimming).

Kayaker Lior Carmi is the only athlete whose inclusion is still dependent on the international kayaking body's rules.

The Olympic flag will be borne by Barcelona silver medalist Arad at the opening ceremony on July 19 and delegation head is Yoram Oberkovich.

The last-minute hype surrounding athletes skirting the squad came to naught as after 24 hours deliberation, officials decided not to head to any of their pleas.

Both Guy Fogel and Amit Leng, judokas in the 60-kilogram category, will remain at home as well as archer Yaron Kolesnik who had been awarded a free ticket to the Games on political grounds.

Director of the Elite Sports Unit, Itzik Ben-Melech, was wary about bringing home medals. "No one in the team is the best in the world, but we have athletes like Ori and Gocha who are among the best in their field. If we have five or six athletes in the final, it will be considered a success."

When asked why the Israeli criteria were often more stringent than the international ones, Ben-Melech answered, "In 1996 we demand results."

For Atlanta, unlike Barcelona (where 30 Israelis participated), the athletes had to produce results from world or European championships, not minor events.

Notwithstanding the low profile, monetary incentives for medals are already in place. A gold medal will see the athlete rewarded with NIS 500,000, a silver will earn NIS 300,000, and a bronze NIS 200,000. The respective coaches will receive half of this figure. A fourth to eighth place will also be compensated.

In this Olympic centennial year, 14 family members of athletes murdered in the Munich Olympics, have been invited by the Israel delegation to Atlanta.

Jackson mulls taking year off

SEATTLE (AP) - Phil Jackson could live without coaching next season.

With his team on the verge of winning a fourth National Basketball Association title in six years, he said Tuesday that if the Chicago Bulls aren't ready to use dollars to show how much they want him, he's ready to sit out the 1996-97 season.

You have to have options in life," said Jackson, whose team was scheduled to play the Seattle SuperSonics last night and possibly clinch the NBA Finals.

In seven seasons, the 50-year-old coach has put together the best winning percentage in NBA history, both in the regular season (.721) and playoffs (.739).

After setting a record with 72 victories this season, his Bulls are 14-1 in the playoffs. Jackson feels very good about coaching these days, yet he is willing to walk away from the game.

"I always said that seven years is the cycle of man, the cycle of growth," said Jackson, a proponent of Zen philosophy. "I had earmarked this as the year that I would finish up, take a year off."

"But being prepared to do it and being forced into doing it are two different things."

Jackson's contract expires July 1, said the Chicago Tribune. He reported that the Bulls are offering him \$1.65 million a year. The New Jersey Nets just hired John Calipari, a college coach who never has been involved in the NBA, for \$3 million a season.

Jackson, who has a base salary this season of \$366,000, might have been a candidate for New Jersey and several other positions. But as the Bulls rolled through the playoffs, one job after another became filled. So taking next season off might be Jackson's best option. Then, he'd be able to assess future openings.

"Phil's decision is going to be well backed-up by his players," Scottie Pippen said. "If he decides to take a year off, who knows? Maybe the whole team will join him."

NBA Finals Best-of-7

Last night: Chicago at Seattle

Tomorrow: Chi. at Sea. (if necessary (Chicago leads series 3-0)

Last night's game will be broadcast at 7 p.m. on TV Channel 3 (Cable 33).



CLOWNING AROUND - England soccer star Paul Gascoigne shows off his skills to teammates Gareth Southgate and Paul Ince during a training session. England plays Scotland on Saturday. (Reuters)

Venables: Tabloids are 'traitors'

LONDON (Reuters) - England coach Terry Venables has accused the country's tabloid newspapers of being traitors to his Euro 96 squad and turning the public against them.

Venables' outburst was prompted by front page stories and pictures of England trio Teddy Sheringham, Sol Campbell and Jamie Redknapp in a nightclub after the disappointing 1-1 draw with Switzerland on Saturday.

"I know a few of the lads are starting to think some papers are traitors to us, turning the public against them. What's the aim of that?" asked Venables. "We would like them to try and help us win games. We're at home, which should be an advantage, but the support isn't as strong as it should be and the advantage is disappearing."

The tabloid spotlight has fallen on England again following complaints by Cathy Pacific airline that some of the players had caused £5,000 of damage on a flight home from a recent Far East tour.

Media outrage at the incident was fueled by photographs of team members with shirts ripped and clutching beer bottles at a birthday party for Paul Gascoigne at a Hong Kong nightclub.

The trio pictured drinking after England's game against the Swiss were on a two-day break. Venables had allowed his players following their Wembley opener.

"I can't understand why things are portrayed like this," said Venables at their first training session back together. "If the players are going to relax, then let them, as long as they don't upset anyone."

"They had permission to go home for a couple of days as they will be in the hotel from now until next Tuesday, so why shouldn't they have a drink? "After all, the Italians and Spaniards have wine with every meal, and the Germans and Dutch organize nights out. When the Irish go out for a drink, everyone thinks it's fine, yet when it comes to us there's a different attitude altogether."

Yesterday: No games scheduled Today: (At Newcastle) Bulgaria vs. Romania, 6:30 pm; (At Birmingham) Switzerland vs. Netherlands, 9:30 pm. Tomorrow: (At Nottingham) Portugal vs. Turkey, 8:30 pm; (At Liverpool) Czech Republic vs. Italy, 9:30 pm. All games televised live on Channel 4

Grant's appointment thus comes one season earlier than planned, as it was expected that Kashtan would see out his two-year contract with the club before handing over to the man who has been in charge at Hapoel Haifa for the past season.

But the changing of the guard at Maccabi was not all smooth sailing. While it was clear yesterday that Kashtan would not continue with the Tel Aviv club, the appointment of Grant was only confirmed once Hapoel Haifa chairman Rubie Shapira had been contacted in Europe.

ORI LEWIS

Shapira gave the go-ahead for Grant to move back south, and he is taking his loyal assistant, Emanuel Ophir, with him. Grant's contract with Maccabi is said to be for five seasons, a period during which the club hopes to build a solid base under private ownership and become a contender on the European stage.

In the interim, Hapoel Haifa has been left high and dry. The club was due to begin training with Grant yesterday ahead of the summer's Intertoto Cup competition in Europe, but so far a replacement coach has not been found.

Shapira has said he is looking for a coach in Europe and he does not plan to sign an Israeli to the position for this season, at least.

It's Grant in, Kashtan out, at Maccabi Tel Aviv

DROR Kashtan's demands from Maccabi Tel Aviv have cost him his job and Avraham Grant will, after all, be the National League soccer champions' coach for the next five seasons.

The shock news came in the early hours of yesterday morning, following news that Kashtan had fallen out with the club he has coached for the past season, after making demands which were clear the club would be unable or unwilling to bow to.

Kashtan had asked for a long-term contract and the dismissal of administrative manager, Shimon Korek. Neither, however, were demands which the club was prepared to discuss and Kashtan was promptly shown the door.

Grant's appointment thus comes one season earlier than planned, as it was expected that Kashtan would see out his two-year contract with the club before handing over to the man who has been in charge at Hapoel Haifa for the past season. But the changing of the guard at Maccabi was not all smooth sailing. While it was clear yesterday that Kashtan would not continue with the Tel Aviv club, the appointment of Grant was only confirmed once Hapoel Haifa chairman Rubie Shapira had been contacted in Europe.

Report: Schott will be suspended

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Controversial Cincinnati Reds owner Marge Schott will be suspended from day-to-day control of the team, according to a report by the cable sports network ESPN.

Citing unidentified sources, ESPN reported Tuesday night that the suspension was expected to run through the 1997 season.

It said some baseball officials were pushing for the ban to last longer, perhaps through 1999 after which Schott's partnership agreement to run the Reds expires.

Acting Commissioner Bud Selig held a news conference on Tuesday to announce the hiring of a marketing director to improve the sport's tarnished image, but he gave no indication of the impending decision on Schott, whose recent conduct he has called worse than embarrassing.

"That's for tomorrow. Today's job is introducing Greg Murphy," Selig said when asked about any ruling on Schott, which was to be handed down by baseball officials late last night.

Baseball's ruling Executive Council will name an interim president to assure Schott does not run the Reds through a hand-picked replacement, ESPN reported.

TUESDAY'S NL RESULTS: Pittsburgh 7, San Francisco 2; Chicago 9, Philadelphia 2; Montreal 3, Florida 2; Atlanta 4, New York 3 (13); Colorado 7, Houston 5; St. Louis 6, Los Angeles 3; Cincinnati 4, San Diego 1.

TUESDAY'S AL RESULTS: Baltimore 12, Detroit 9; Cleveland 6, Oakland 5 (13); New York 6, Toronto 4; Boston 9, Chicago 2; Seattle 18, Minnesota 8; California 11, Kansas City 9; Milwaukee 14, Texas 4.

NATIONAL LEAGUE table showing standings for various teams like Atlanta, Montreal, Florida, Philadelphia, New York, Houston, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, Chicago, Cincinnati, San Diego, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Colorado.

AMERICAN LEAGUE table showing standings for various teams like New York, Baltimore, Toronto, Boston, Detroit, Cleveland, Chicago, Minnesota, Milwaukee, Kansas City, Texas, Seattle, San Diego, California, Oakland.

CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIEDS section containing various real estate, medical, and service advertisements. Includes categories like RATES, DWELLINGS, HOLIDAY RENTALS, SITUATIONS VACANT, and MEDICAL/NURSING. Text includes prices, descriptions, and contact information for various services and properties in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

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